

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices comprising:

a first Fibre Channel Arbitrated ~~loop~~Loop switch,

a second Fibre Channel Arbitrated ~~loop~~Loop switch,

~~saideach of the~~ first and second Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop Switches~~switches~~ including ~~port-logica~~ plurality of ports, connectivity apparatus and route determination logic, and

the route determination logic creating routes based on the receipt of certain arbitrated Loop primitives,

~~whereby Said wherein the~~ first and second ~~loop~~Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop switches are interconnected by multiple interswitch links and transfer frames ~~on both~~through at least two of the plurality of ports on each switch.

Claim 2 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 1 wherein a first group of devices make connection through a first interswitch link and a second group of devices make connection through a second, different interswitch link.

Claim 3 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 1 further including a trunk grouping table.

Claim 4 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the table is in the router.

Claim 5 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the trunk grouping table automatically learns the grouping.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 5 wherein the table learns the grouping from the previous OPEN Fibre Channel primitive (OPN) from a Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop device initiator.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 6 wherein the device initiator is a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) initiator.

Claim 8 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 7 wherein the SCSI initiator is a server.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the trunk grouping table contains information on Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) initiators.

Claim 10 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies a primary port to route frames for an initiator Arbitrated Loop device.

Claim 11 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies a backup or duplicate port to route frames for an initiator Arbitrated Loop device.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies a duplicate port for a devicesdevice.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies an initiator Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (ALPA).

Claim 14 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 12 wherein the duplicate port is used as a failover port.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 3 wherein the information about the SCSI initiators includes one or more of the following: Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (ALPA) address for the initiator, assigned primary trunk group to route the frames, duplicate port to route the frames ~~in case~~ in case of an error with the primary trunk group.